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**CORNELL
COLLINS
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DIRECT EDITION



WHEN THE
TRUTH IS--

THERE'S ONLY
PEOPLE.

AHH!

AND THEIR
JUDGEMENT.

MEGGAN PULCANO IN:

THE HARROWING OF HELL

PAUL
CORNELL
WRITER

MIKE
COLLINS
PENCILER

LIVESAY
INKER

JAY DAVID
RAMOS
COLORIST

GREG LAND AND
JUSTIN PONSOR
COVER

VC'S JOE
CARAMACHA
LETTERER

DANIEL
KETCHUM
ASST. EDITOR

NICK
LOWE
EDITOR

JOE
QUESADA
EDITOR IN CHIEF

DAN
BUCKLEY
PUBLISHER

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FINE
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HURTING?
WE'LL GIVE YOU
HURTING!

FEED HER
THE BURNING
COALS!

THAT'S JUST
IT. NOTHING
BAD'S HAPPENED
TO ME.

NBODY
SEEMS TO
THINK I'M THEIR
RESPONSIBILITY.
AND...



I CAN'T
FEEL THE EARTH
HERE. I CAN'T
FEEL NATURE.

SO I CAN'T
REALLY KNOW
ANYTHING ABOUT
THIS PLACE. BUT...
BUT...



I CAN FEEL,
SOMEWHERE
DISTANT...

SOMEONE
OR SOMETHING
IS OFFERING ME
HOPE.

WOULD
THAT BE TRUE,
IF...IF...?



WELL... THAT
IS... THAT IS
DIFFERENT.

POTENTIALLY...
WORRYING.

BUT...
EVERYTHING HERE
IS FOR SALE. IF YOU WANT
TO MEET THE LORDS OF THE
SPLINTER REALMS, THE
FIVE-FINGERED HAND,
THE CABAL...

WHAT
HAVE YOU
TO BARGAIN
WITH?





--SO
BELOW.

SHE HAS
THE SMELL OF
MERLIN AND ROMA
ON HER.

MERLIN?
HOW FARES
MY SON?

YOU THINK
EVERYONE'S
YOUR SON.

YOU'VE BEEN
PASSED UP TO US
THROUGH PRINCES,
EARLS AND DUKES
OF HELL, GIRL.

THEY SAY YOU
HAVE A QUESTION.
IN RETURN FOR
INFORMATION.

THIS
BETTER BE
GOOD.





WITH YOU
ALL LOOKING
AT ME...

I'M
SURPRISED
I'M STILL...



BECAUSE WE
HAVE NO "OPINIONS"
CONCERNING
YOUR NATURE.

WE
KNOW WHAT
YOU ARE.



BUT IT'S
TRUE, SHE
HASN'T BEEN
PUNISHED.

OR PERHAPS...
PERHAPS SOMETHING
IS WORKING ITSELF
OUT HERE...

WHAT IS YOUR
INFORMATION?



IT'S ABOUT
ONE OF YOUR
DUKES, PLOKTA. I'VE
HEARD YOU CAN'T
FIND HIM.

I KNOW
WHY, SEE IT IN
MY MIND.



HE HAS
ALLOWED HIMSELF
TO BE CAPTURED BY
HUMANS! USED AS
THEIR INSTRUMENT!

SPLENDID
CRUELTY!

THIS IS A
WORTHY OFFERING.
ASK YOUR
QUESTION.

11



DOES
EVERYONE...
DESERVE TO
BE HERE?

IT'S NOT
LIKE "EVERYONE
IN JAIL IS INNOCENT."
I WASN'T
SENTENCED.

BUT IF I
DO DESERVE
TO BE HERE,
THEN I'LL...

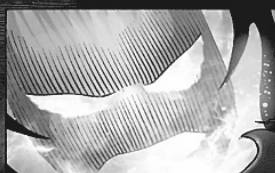
I'LL...



INTERESTING.

MOST WHO
ARE HERE, IN TRUTH,
SENTENCE THEMSELVES, OR
ARE DELIVERED BY THE SHAPE
OF HUMAN DEATH, OR ARE
TRAPPED BY THOSE OF
US WHO DELIGHT
IN THAT.

NONE OF
THESE APPLY TO
YOU. YOU'RE
INBETWEEN.



YOUR POWER
IS EMPATHY: KNOWING
YOUR ENVIRONMENT,
BEING SHAPED
BY IT.

WELL, HELL
KNOWS THE ANSWER
TO YOUR QUESTION.
THIS ENVIRONMENT.
ALL THE MINDS
WITHIN IT.



WHY DON'T
YOU SHOW SOME
SPINE FOR ONCE
IN YOUR LIFE--

AND
ASK IT?



...AND CAP'S REALLY
TAKEN TO HIS NEW
MUTANT FRIEND. SAVED
FROM A LIFE ON
THE STREETS--

THAT'S SO
SWEET!

I RECKON
HE'LL ADOPT
HER.

--CAPTAIN BRITAIN,
SEEN AROUND
TOWN LATELY WITH
A MYSTERIOUS
BLONDE...

SHE'S A
BIT OF ALL RIGHT.
WHERE DID SHE
COME FROM?



SHE'S A
BIT YOUNG
FOR HIM, ISN'T
SHE?

WHAT DOES
THAT SAY ABOUT
HIM? CRADLE
SNATCHER.



TOO
YOUNG FOR
HIM.

EVERY
TIME WE SEE
HER SHE'S DOING
SOMETHING
STUPID.



HE'S A
BLOODY
PEDO.





IF
THAT'S WHAT
DECIDES IT,
THEN--

I'VE GOT
NOTHING TO HIDE.
I'LL REACH OUT WITH
MY POWER, FURTHER THAN
IT'S EVER GONE. I'LL
GLADLY BE JUDGED
BY EVERYONE
HERE.



MAYBE THIS
WILL FINALLY
CONVINCE--



NO! I
CAN'T--
I CAN'T...



STOP
IT!!!

GUERRGGGGHHHH!!!



I NEVER
SAID THAT WAS
WHAT DECIDED
IT.

SUCH A
FOOL. WHAT
DID YOU IMAGINE THE
OPINION OF HELL
WOULD BE?



AH, MEGGAN.
ALWAYS HOPING
FOR SOMETHING
NICE.

THANK YOU
FOR PROVIDING
US WITH A GOOD
JOKE.



NOW, ONCE
AGAIN, YOU
HAVE FOUND
YOUR HELL.

BEFORE, I MIGHT HAVE
SUBMITTED. STAYED HERE.
ACCEPTED PUNISHMENT
FOR IMAGINED SINS.

BEFORE HE
DID THAT.

BUT NOW
I'D FOUND
SOMETHING.

SOMETHING I'D NEVER
TRUSTED IN MYSELF
BEFORE. BUT NOW I
GRABBED HOLD OF IT.

ANGER.

MY ANGER
HAD A
FOCUS.

MY ANGER WAS
INFECTIOUS.

MY ANGER
SPREAD.





YOU WERE
WISE TO COME
TO ME.



YOUR RAGGED
ARMY HAS MADE
SMALL GAINS IN
THIS PART OF
HELL.

A REGION
ALREADY RESISTANT
TO THE WISHES OF
THE LORDS--

SINCE
IT IS STILL MY
REALM.

SINCE IT
BELONGS TO
PLUTO.



I WOULD
BE PART OF
THEIR
CLIQUE.

HAD THEY
NOT DECIDED
MY NEW EARTH-
BASED STRATEGY
OFFENDED THEIR
SENSIBILITIES.

BUT SUCH
TINY WARS HAVE
ALWAYS RIVEN
HELL. NO DOUBT
SOMEDAY--



OH BY
ZEUS--!

I TIRE OF
TALKING TO
MYSELF!

SINCE
YOU'RE NO
LONGER CHANGED
BY YOUR
ENVIRONMENT,
MONSTER--

PLEASE:
CHOOSE
A FORM FOR
YOURSELF!

THIS FORM
IS STABLE...SO
I WON'T CHANGE AGAIN!
OKAY, THANK YOU,
BUT YOU HAVE TO
UNDERSTAND
THIS--

THAT'S
THE LAST TIME
ANYONE JUDGES
ME!





I NEVER FOUND A
SWORD OF MY OWN. I
TOOK ONE AFTER
ANOTHER FROM
THE FALLEN.

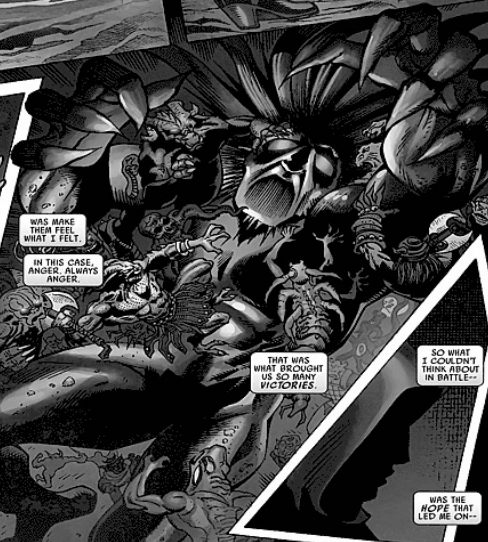


WE DIDN'T HAVE TO FIGHT
MUCH IN THOSE MONTHS. WELL,
IT SEEMED LIKE MONTHS
TO ME. WHO KNOWS HOW
LONG IT WAS? TIME PASSES
DIFFERENTLY IN HELL.



I COULDN'T CONTROL
THE DEMONS' MINDS, OR
ANYONE ELSE'S--

ALL I
COULD
DO--



WAS MAKE
THEM FEEL
WHAT I FELT.

IN THIS CASE,
ANGER. ALWAYS
ANGER.

THAT WAS
WHAT BROUGHT
US SO MANY
VICTORIES.

SO WHAT
I COULDN'T
THINK ABOUT
IN BATTLE--

WAS THE
HOPE THAT
LED ME ON--



THE HOPE OF
RETURNING
TO BRIAN.

HE ALWAYS
LOVED ME.

FOR
WHAT I REALLY
WAS.

HE SAW WHAT I
WAS, KNEW IT, LOVED
IT. AND SO HE HELPED
ME MAKE IT.

HE ONLY LET ME
DOWN WHEN I
LET HIM DOWN.

BECAUSE HE'S
JUST A MAN, AND
SO, WITH HIM I WAS
JUST A WOMAN.

I STILL LOVE
HIM. I MISS HIM
EVERY DAY.

ONLY NOW, I
UNDERSTAND THAT LOVE
HOW HARD WON IT
WAS. HOW VALUABLE
IT WAS.

BUT WE TREATED
IT OFFHANDELY
THEN, LIKE
CHILDREN--

I WAS SURE THE
HOPE I COULD
ALWAYS FEEL WAS A
BEACON FROM HIM.

MILADY!
MILADY!

YOU
AREN'T
MAKING
THEM HAPPY,
MA'AM!

IT'S A
FEELING LITTLE
KNOWIN' IN
HELL!

SORRY,
LIEUTENANT,
I WAS MILES
AWAY.

LISTEN,
THEY'VE NAMED
YOU!

**GLORIANA!
GLORIANA!
GLORIANA!**

OH,
I DIDN'T
EXPECT...

I WAS
TRYING TO
TAKE ALL OF
HELL.

BUT THIS
FEELS LIKE A
BIGGER
VICTORY.

AND, YOU
KNOW, I'VE
ALWAYS WANTED A
SUPER HERO NAME.
I NEVER THOUGHT
I... DESERVED
ONE.

"GLORIANA."
I'LL LET THEM
CALL ME THAT.

THAT
WAS WHEN I
DECIDED...



THEY COULD LEAD
THEMSELVES FROM
HERE. I KNEW FROM
EXPERIENCE THAT THEY
WOULD REMEMBER
HAPPINESS.

THEY STOOD A
CHANCE OF
SPREADING IT
THROUGH HELL.

A BIGGER CHANCE,
IN FACT, AS A
PEOPLE, RATHER
THAN AS AN ARMY.



I LEFT INSTRUCTIONS
THAT THEY CREATE A
LAND, WITH A FIXED
BORDER, AND TEND IT.

I NAMED IT
ELYSIUM, A SANCTUARY
FOR SOULS TO
ESCAPE TO.



I ORDERED
THAT PLUTO ALSO BE
GIVEN HIS DUE IN
NEW TERRITORY.

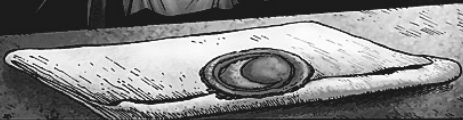


I LEFT MY
SIGN ON THE
LETTER.

AND THEN
PASSED OUT
OF THIS
WORLD--

HEADING FOR
WHAT I HADN'T
ALLOWED MYSELF
UNTIL NOW--

A CHANCE TO
FIND MY HOPE
IN HELL.





I FOLLOWED THE
FEELING ACROSS
MANY DIFFERENT
ASPECTS OF HELL.

I FELT
IT GROWING
STRONGER.



I REMAINED
MYSELF.

I DIDN'T NEED
AN ARMY TO
DO THAT.

WHERE I
WALKED, I
SPREAD PEACE.



UNTIL I
FOUND IT.

PURE
MOONLIGHT.

SHINING
INTO HELL.

BRIAN...?

BRIAN, IS
THAT YOU?

I'M
AFRAID NOT,
MY DEAR...



AND YOU
KNOW THE
REST.

...IT'S JUST
A FELLOW
GYPSY--

OFFERING
YOU A WAY
OUT.

I GATHER
YOU'VE ALWAYS
WANTED TO FLY
TO THE MOON.

TO BE CONTINUED...

"IN THE GROUNDS
OF MY HOME,
ON MID-SUMMER'S
DAY--"

SO
DEFINITELY NO
POWERS?

NO
POWERS!
I
PROMISE!

"WE HAD A GO
AT THE OLD LEATHER
ON WILLOW."

CAPTAIN BRITAIN
AND HIS IN-

BRITISH MAGIC

PAUL
CORNELL
WRITER

ADRIAN
ALPHONA
ARTIST

CHRISTINA
STRAIN
COLORIST

VE'S JOE
CARAMAGNA
LETTERER

DANIEL
KETCHUM
ASST. EDITOR

NICK
LOWE
EDITOR

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QUESADA
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NOTE: THIS STORY
IS SET BETWEEN
CAP #9-#10
--NAUGHTY NICK.



"SHE ALWAYS
USED TO LOVE
THE SUMMER."

"MIDSUMMER'S
DAY MOST
OF ALL."

"I REMEMBER, ONE
SUMMER, LONG
BEFORE WE WERE
MARRIED--"

LET'S GO
TO STONEHENGE,
AND AVEBURY,
AND WEST KENNET AND
SILBURY HILL--!

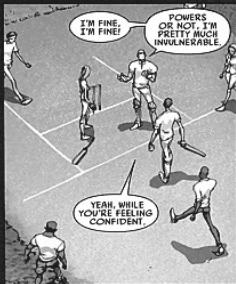
MEGGAN--

I LOVE
YOU, BUT
JUST FOR
ONCE--

"CHOOSE!"

THAT'S MORE
LIKE IT! HE NEARLY
GOT AN EDGE
ON THAT!







OKAY,
SO HOW
ABOUT I TRY
THIS--?



I REALLY,
REALLY WANT YOU
TO MAKE YOUR OWN
CHOICES, ALL
THE TIME.

I WANT
TO BE WITH A
WOMAN WHO'S
FREE.

AND YOU
MEAN IT, BUT IT'S
NOT AS EASY
AS THAT...



I'M
INFLUENCED BY
EVERYTHING,
CONSCIOUS AND
UNCONSCIOUS, INCLUDING
THAT BIG MOON
UP THERE.

YOU
KNOW...



THERE
ISN'T ANYONE
AROUND, NOT
FOR MILES.

MEGGAN,
NO, HOW
DO I KNOW IF
YOU REALLY
WANT--?

BECAUSE
YOU JUST SAID
NO, AND MEANT IT.
AND I STILL WANT
YOU ANYWAY.



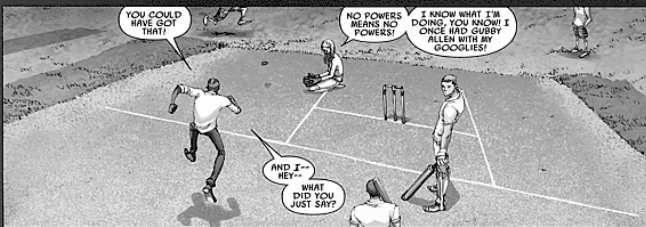
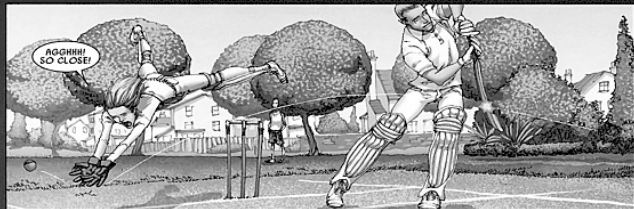
DENYING
THAT I WANT
WHAT I
WANT--

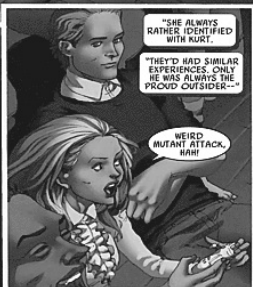
THAT IS
TREATING
ME LIKE A
THING.

I WANT YOU
TO BE FREE
TOO--



"TO DO
WHAT YOU
WILL."









YES,
EVERY UNIVERSE,
AND EVERY
DIMENSION.

YOU ARE,
EFFECTIVELY, YOUR
MAJESTY, RULERS
OF ALL
CREATION.

THERE.
TOLD YOU.



WE'RE...
IN CHARGE OF
EVERYTHING?!

WHAT DOES
THAT EVEN MEAN?!
WHERE DO WE START?
I MEAN, NORMALLY
FOR ME...

IT'S
KIND OF THE
OTHER WAY
ROUND.



THAT WAS
ONE REASON I
SAID YES.

TO SHOW
YOU THAT IF YOU
REACH OUT AND TRY
AND DO SOME
GOOD...

IT DOESN'T
ALWAYS
HAVE TO FALL
APART.

AS TO
WHERE WE
START...



SHALL WE
SEE IF WE CAN
GET A POT
OF TEA?

"SHE'D WANT ME
TO KEEP GOING.
SHE'D WANT ME TO
PUT MY HEART INTO
EVERYTHING--"

"BE OPEN
TO EVERYTHING.
ALWAYS."

"LIKE SHE
WAS."

CRACK!

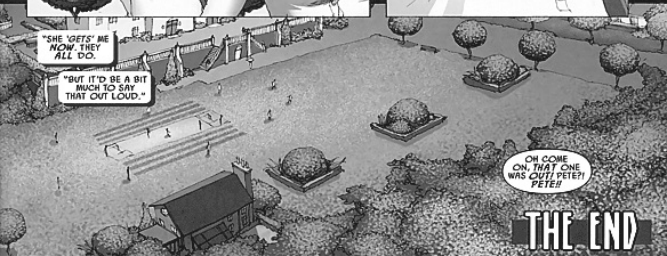
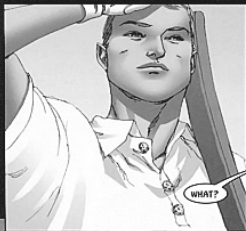
CRACK!

THAT'S
ALL I GET?
SIX GOOD
BALLS?

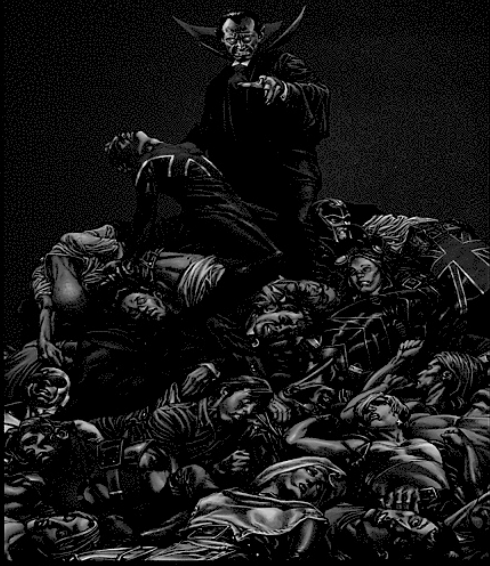
THE GOOD
NEWS IS, YOU
GET THE NEXT
SIX OFF.

I'M SO
GONNA GET
YOU NEXT
TIME.

RIGHT.



TO BE CONTINUED IN CAPTAIN BRITAIN AND MI13 #14



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